

# SMOKE SIGNALS

Volume 44/Number 1 October 2012



## Administration Message

Dear Fellow Residents:

We are well into fall and the holiday season will be here quickly. The busier we are the faster time goes. Your Village team has been busy the past few months as well. However, before we start to celebrate, we need to attend to our obligations as citizens and cast our votes in the November 6th elections. We must also look back to last year and reflect on events. The Heritage Center Book Sale/Open House was a big success! For information about local events, the local election referenda, pending Village improvements, and important news, please read on.

### *Kelli Joy O'Laughlin*

The Village memorial to Kelli Joy O'Laughlin was dedicated on Saturday October 27, 2012. We remember her, we console her family, and we give thanks for our local police and law enforcement personnel who solved this heinous crime. As time goes by we will all move forward, but we will Never Forget! Please see the article about the dedication below!

### *Electricity and Revenue*

As you know, on November 6th, we will have the opportunity to cast our ballot for president and various other offices and judgeships. Our Founders fought for us so that we may choose our Nation's leaders by casting our ballot. No matter who you support, or what your thoughts are about local issues, it is important to our democratic legacy that you vote!

As you hopefully already know, the Village will have two referenda on the ballot this time. The first one is to allow the Village to aggregate our residential and small businesses for the purpose of entering into a village-wide contract to purchase electricity. If this initiative is successful, the Village will be able to negotiate with a supplier of electricity using the leverage of our combined buying power to obtain lower rates. Surrounding towns have done this and are saving residents anywhere from \$200 to \$400 per year on their electric bills. No one will be obligated to take advantage of this program. Village customers will have the opportunity to opt-out at their discretion. Please see the flyer insert in this newsletter and our website for further information. You may wish to check the website for the Citizen's Utility Board for further information.

The second referendum is for the purpose of providing \$200,000 additional revenue for the Village from property taxes. Contrary to what you may hear, this was not an easy decision for me and the Village Board to make. We do not enjoy telling you that we need more revenue. However, it is a fact of life that we must do so in order to carry out the

responsibilities that come with the trust you have placed in us. Please see the insert in this newsletter and our Village website for further information. Please consider your decision carefully. The choice is yours!

### *Heritage Center Book Sale/Open House*

On Saturday October 20th, the Heritage Center Book Sale and Open house was held. The event was a tremendous success. The library docents were able to raise money for use towards the Library from the sale of books donated by our residents and others. Thanks to all the docents for their efforts in connection with this event both inside and outside the building. Thanks also to those who baked and donated coffee and to the IHP Heritage Foundation for their support. A very special thanks to Manish at the Seven-11 Brookside Plaza who donated the water, soda, ice cream and chips. We appreciate his community spirit and support and ask our residents to patronize his and all of our local businesses! The Library is open weekends. Stop by!

### *I294 Security/Sound Wall*

I am pleased to report that we have been notified by the Illinois Tollway Authority that the security/sound wall at I294/Plainfield is on track and still likely to be completed this construction season. By now, most of us are familiar with the resurfacing that has been on-going on I294 this summer. As this wraps up, the Tollway plans to complete another project to continue the existing sound wall from its current ending point south of Plainfield to the north towards the Hinsdale oasis. The new wall will include fencing for security and sound abatement. We are told that the Tollway Board has approved the contract and still planned to go forward with it this year. Hopefully, by the time you read this, the work is well underway! This project was successfully pursued by your Village Team in response to an issue brought to us by a concerned and positive citizenry.

### *Acacia and Cochise*

Another accomplishment that your Village team has been able to achieve is the designation of Acacia Drive from the North Entrance at Wolf Road to the South Entrance as a "feeder" street by the Federal Highway Authority. This will make it eligible for federal funds in the future for maintenance/re-paving and puts this street on the same level as Blackhawk Drive which you may re-call we were able to obtain federal stimulus funds to have re-paved in 2009. Of course, like the Blackhawk re-paving, the Village would need to come up with

*continued on page 2*

## Message continued from page 1

our "matching share. That is why the Village finances have to be sound and able to provide our share of costs when opportunities like this arise.

Along these lines, we have received a check for about \$72,000 which is the first payment of 25% of the Illinois Capital Plan grant that your Village team was able to procure for replacement of the water main on Cochise. The grant was requested along with many other local projects but ultimately was selected in 2009 by State officials to receive funding and now the money is finally available. Although we hoped to do this sooner this project will likely be accomplished next spring. Our engineers must re-evaluate the current costs of the project and determine if the request based on 2008-2009 costs is still viable or if the Village will need to make up the difference. We intend to do our very best to insure this project will go forward.

Hopefully, this has given you a better understanding of our accomplishments and the future challenges we must face together. Thank you for your support! See you at the voting booth!

Respectfully yours, Richard S. Andrews, mayor

### Scheduled Meeting Dates

**Village Board of Trustees: 7:30 p.m.:**

Thursday, November 8, 2012

**Planning and Zoning Commission: 7:30 p.m.:**

Tuesday, November 13, 2012

**Fire and Police Commission: 7:00 p.m.**

No meeting scheduled at this time.

**E-911 Board: 6:30 p.m.**

No meeting scheduled at this time.

All meetings are held at the Municipal Facility at 201 Acacia Drive. All residents are welcomed!

#### Smoke Signals

(708) 246-3137

#### Volume 44, Number 1

Circulation 2000

*Smoke Signals* is published by the Village of Indian Head Park to inform its residents of present activities in the village and the ever-growing plans for the future in the pursuit of better government and good citizenship.

Teepee Topics news items should be submitted to the Newsletter Coordinator at the Municipal Offices.

Full page advertisements - \$200.00, 1/2 page advertisements - \$125.00, 3 1/2" x 3 1/2" size advertisements - \$75.00, business card size advertisements - \$45.00, trading post advertisements - \$20.00 (no commercial advertisements - the advertisement will run two times at no cost, then a \$20.00 charge).

Extra copies and back issues (up to one year) of *Smoke Signals* can be obtained at the Village Hall.

[www.indianheadpark-il.gov](http://www.indianheadpark-il.gov)

## Dedication of Village Memorial to Kelli Joy

On Saturday, October 27, 2012, in keeping with the promise made at the December 2011 VBT meeting, Mayor Andrews and the Village Board of Trustees dedicated the Village Memorial to Kelli Joy O'Laughlin. This date was chosen by the family and was held in conjunction with a candlelight ceremony in commemoration of the 1st anniversary of the tragedy that took Kelli from us. The Memorial is located at Sacajawea Park and consists of a tree, bench, and a boulder-mounted plaque. In addition, the children's play area and equipment was named Kelli's Playground in memory of her name for it as a child. A sign to this effect sits atop the park name sign visible from the street. The tree is a redbud that flowers purple in spring (Kelli's favorite color) and was donated by Louis Van Duerm of North Riverside Landscape, Inc. The bench was donated by the Corcoran family and their friends. The cement pad the bench sits on was donated by Jack Yelnick. The tree, plaque and boulder were donated by the Village on behalf of all of our residents. There are many activities and fund-raisers for the Kelli Joy Memorial Fund coming in the near future. Although the events are sponsored by others, we urge you to support them as you can. On behalf of everyone, I personally thank all who donated to make Kelli's memorial possible and the Village residents for their support in this regard. With vigilance to the future and fond memories of lost loved ones, I ask the Lord bless Kelli, her family, friends, neighbors and our residents and help us all find peace as we move forward from this tragedy.

Mayor Rich Andrews

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#### VILLAGE OF INDIAN HEAD PARK

201 Acacia Drive, Indian Head Park, IL 60525

(708) 246-3080

[www.indianheadpark-il.gov](http://www.indianheadpark-il.gov)

#### Office Hours

Mon., Tues., Wed. and Fri 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and

Thursdays, 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Closed Saturday, Sunday and Holidays

**Mayor:** Richard S. Andrews

<b>Trustees:</b>	Deborah A. Anselmo	Carol Coleman
	Brian T. Bailey	Norman L. Schnauffer
	Anne Bermier	Matthew P. Walsh II

**Village Clerk:** Joseph V. Consolo

**Chief of Police/**  
**Administrator:** Frank Alonzo, Jr.

<b>Police Dept.</b>	Non-Emergency	246-4534
	<b>Emergency</b>	<b>9-1-1</b>

<b>Fire Dept.</b>	Non-Emergency	352-9229
	<b>Emergency</b>	<b>9-1-1</b>

The advertisements and notices of privately sponsored events or activities contained in *Smoke Signals* are provided for informational purposes only, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions or policies of the Village of Indian Head Park, its officials or employees. The inclusion of a product advertisement or notice of a privately sponsored event or activity herein should not be construed as an endorsement by the Village of that product, event or activity.

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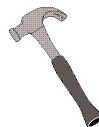
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## TEEPEE TOPICS

Congratulations to Mayor Rich and his wife Diane on the birth of their grand-child Gloria Mary! The IHP first grand-daughter was born on June 7th and weighed in at 7 lbs., 14 oz., and 20 inches tall. Gloria's parents Erica and Mike are very proud and her grand-parents are beaming.

Congratulations to past president Ed Jaeky and wife Carol Ann who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in September.

The Indian Head Park Woman's Club meets the 3rd Tuesday September through April (except for December) at 6:45 p.m. at the Village of Indian Head Park Municipal Facility located at 201 Acacia Drive. For further information regarding membership and programs, please contact Mary Ann Stang at (630) 789-9555.

The Lyonsville Congregational Church. Located at 6871 Joliet Road, will be hosting a Harvest Home Turkey Dinner on Saturday, November 10, 2012 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$15.00 for adults, children ages 5-12 \$7.00 and children under 4 are free. Please contact the Lyonsville Church At (708) 246-1255 or visit their Website at [www.lyonsvillechurch.org](http://www.lyonsvillechurch.org) for information regarding this event as well as church services for the holiday season.

Our condolences to the family and friends of the following residents who passed away: Mary Carnevale, age 94. Mary was a resident of Indian Head Park for twenty two years and her son Leonard also lives in Indian Head Park. Jeanne Acke, age 81 and Violet Danielson Schmidt, age 92. Violet and her husband moved to Indian Head Park in 1960 and lived on Shabbona for 50 years. They both loved to Plymouth Place in 2010. Bill Nault, age 86, a long time resident who also was a U.S. Army veteran.

The Hinsdale/Burr Ridge Aging Well team is sponsoring a fall "Ask the Expert" event for older adults. This topic for the workshop is: "Who



Said Games are Just for Kids?" The event will be held at the Burr Ridge Park District, at 15W400 Harvester Drive in Burr Ridge on Wednesday, November 7th from 9:30 a.m. to noon. The morning will kick off with an interactive chair fitness session led by King-Bruwaert House Fitness Director Barbara Schafer. Mike Rohan of All Trust Home Care will speak on how to maintain brain fitness and the group will participate in interactive brain games. For information, please visit the following Website: [www.agingcareconnections.org](http://www.agingcareconnections.org).

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